

Spec. Code: 2758(4260)  
Occ. Area: 07  
Work Area: 171  
Prob. Period: 6 mo.  
Prom. Line: none  
Effective Date: 09/18/92

## **NURSERY WORKER**

### Function of Job

Under general supervision from a designated supervisor, to be responsible for the operation of greenhouses and for the planting and cultivation of greenhouse plants.

### Characteristic Duties and Responsibilities

1. cultivates and propagates plants from seeds, cuttings, and by grafting, budding, layering, or dividing
2. mixes soil, moss, and other ingredients for plant beds
3. sprays, dusts, or applies pesticides, fertilizers, and growth regulators
4. prunes and stimulates growth with plant hormones
5. regulates temperature, humidity, water, and light
6. assists in routine research work
7. supervises students and other personnel as assigned
8. maintains inventory of plants, materials, and supplies
9. assists in the coordination of plants for use in classrooms, campus events, outside plantings, demonstrations, and displays
10. operates and maintains light greenhouse machinery and equipment (such as rototillers, sprayers, and vents)
11. conducts tours of greenhouses and facilities
12. performs related duties as assigned

### MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE QUALIFICATIONS

CREDENTIALS TO BE VERIFIED BY PLACEMENT OFFICER

1. high school graduation or equivalent
2. Any one or any combination of the following types of preparation:
  - (a) work experience in greenhouse or nursery operations
  - (b) credit for college training that included course work in botany, plant biology, horticulture, plant and soil science, or closely related fields (such as biology, forestry, and floriculture)

that totals 1.0 unit according to the following conversion rates:

18 months of "a" = 1.0 unit

60 semester hours of "b" that includes 20 in the specialized fields  
described above = 1.0 unit

Amounts of experience or training less than those listed above should be converted to decimal equivalents of 1.0 unit and added together when computing combinations of the different types of preparation. Amounts of college credit less than 60 semester hours must include a proportionate amount of course work in the specialized fields; for example, if applicants have 30 semester hours of total credit, they must have 10 hours in the specialized fields.

3. eligibility for licensure to apply pesticides under the Illinois Pesticide Act, the category of the license depending on the nature of the work to be performed; the license must be obtained within the probationary period.
4. possession of a valid State of Illinois driver's license, the class of the license depending on the type of the vehicle(s) to be operated

#### PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES NEEDED TO UNDERTAKE JOB

1. basic knowledge of plant morphology and systematics
2. basic knowledge of the use and application of pesticides
3. basic knowledge of computers
4. ability to compute metric measurements and mix chemical solutions
5. supervisory ability
6. mechanical skills